

Serial Number 09/884,031

**REMARKS**

The specification, abstract, and claims have been amended to specify various additional types of well-known conventional charging/discharging devices to which the invention is clearly applicable, and to correct various formal errors that became apparent to the Applicant.

Early and favorable consideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

BACON & THOMAS, PLLC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "By E. Urcia", followed by a long horizontal line.

By: BENJAMIN E. URCIA  
Registration No. 33,805

Date: August 24, 2001

BACON & THOMAS, PLLC  
625 Slaters Lane, 4th Floor  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Telephone: (703) 683-0500

NWB:S:\Producer\beu\Pending Q...Z\Y\YANG884031\pre-amend.wpd